

Claims

1. A DNA whose nucleotide sequence comprising the sequence selected from about 145 to about 4152 in the sequence listing in Figure 1.

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2. A DNA of claim 1, wherein said DNA comprises the sequence selected from about 193 to about 4152 in the sequence listing in Figure 1.

3. A DNA of claim 1, wherein said DNA comprises the sequence from about 145 to about 4152 in the sequence listing in Figure 1.

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4. A DNA of claim 1, wherein said DNA comprises the sequence from about 193 to about 4152 in the sequence listing in Figure 1.

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5. A vector comprising a DNA of claim 1.

6. A vector of claim 5, wherein said vector is a plasmid or virus.

7. A nucleic acid construct comprising at least one DNA of claim 1.

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8. A nucleic acid construct of claim 7, further comprising an effector gene, wherein said DNA activates the transcription of said effector gene.

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9. A nucleic acid construct of claim 8, wherein said DNA is upstream of the effector gene.

10. A nucleic acid construct of claim 9, wherein said effector gene is a stearoyl-CoA desaturase gene.

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11. A nucleic acid construct of claim 10, wherein said effector gene is human stearoyl-CoA desaturase gene.

12. A host cell that comprises a nucleic acid construct of claim 7.

13. A host cell that comprises a nucleic acid construct of claim 8.

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14. A method for determining whether an agent effects the expression level of the effector gene in a host cell of claim 13, which comprises the steps of (i) contacting the agent under suitable conditions with such host cell expressing such effector gene at a known level; and (ii)
10 determining whether the effector gene expression level increases or decreases after cellular contact with said agent.

15. A method of claim 14, wherein said effector gene is a stearyl-CoA desaturase gene.

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16. A method of claim 14, wherein said effector gene is human stearyl-CoA desaturase gene.

17. A method of claim 14, wherein said effector gene is a luciferase
20 gene.

18. A method of claim 14, wherein said effector gene is a β -galactosidase gene or a chloramphenicol acetyltransferase gene.

25. 19. A composition comprising a nucleic acid that comprises the sequence from about 145 to about 4152 in the sequence listing in Figure 1 having promoter activity, or a partial sequence of the promoter which possesses promoter activity, in a carrier.

30 20. A composition comprising a nucleic acid that comprises the sequence from about 193 to about 4152 in the sequence listing in Figure 1 having promoter activity, or a partial sequence of the promoter which possesses promoter activity, in a carrier.